

Amendments To The Claims:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A medical device having a longitudinal axis, the device comprising:

a first serpentine band and a second serpentine band adjacent thereto, each serpentine band formed of interconnected struts and having a distal end and a proximal end, each strut extending between a peak at the distal end of the serpentine band and a trough at the proximal end of the serpentine band,

at least one of the struts being a special strut, each special strut having a first side with a first region of first curvature relative to the longitudinal axis and a second side with a second region of second curvature relative to the longitudinal axis, the first region opposite the second region, the first region curving in a direction opposite to the second region relative to the longitudinal axis of the device, each special strut having a radiopaque marker between the first and second regions, each special strut having a plurality of interconnected struts adjacent the first side, the interconnected struts having curved regions which curve about the first region and a plurality of interconnected struts adjacent the second side, the interconnected struts having curved regions which curve about the second region,

the first serpentine band connected to the second serpentine band by a connector which extends from one of the ends of the first serpentine band to one of the ends of the second serpentine band,

at least one cover, the at least one cover on at least one region of the medical device, a plurality of the radiopaque markers marking the proximal end of the at least one region and a plurality of the radiopaque markers marking the distal end of the at least one region[.].

Claim 2. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 1 wherein the special struts are in a region between the ends of the medical device.

Claim 3. (Canceled)

Claim 4. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 1 wherein the cover extends about the circumference of the medical device.

Claim 5. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 1 wherein the cover does not cover the entirety of the medical device.

Claim 6. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 1 comprising a second cover covering a second region of the stent, another portion of the special struts located at the periphery of the second region of the stent.

Claim 7. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 1 wherein a cover extends about the medical device in the region of each special strut.

Claim 8. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 2 wherein the special struts are located anywhere between the middle of the medical device and a position one half of the way from the middle of the medical device to an end of the medical device.

Claim 9. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 1 wherein some of the special struts are at one end of the medical device.

Claim 10. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 1 wherein one of the special struts is at one end of the medical device and another special strut is at the other end of the medical device.

Claims 11-12. (Canceled)

Claim 13. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 1 wherein the radiopaque markers are in the form of plated radiopaque material, coated radiopaque material, or painted radiopaque

material.

Claim 14. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 1 wherein the radiopaque markers are in the form of swaged radiopaque material or welded radiopaque material.

Claim 15. (Original) The medical device of claim 1 in the form of a stent.

Claim 16. (Withdrawn) A stent comprising:

a plurality of serpentine bands having peaks and troughs and struts extending therebetween, at least one strut being a connecting strut extending from at least one of the serpentine bands, the at least one connecting strut having a region with an enlarged width with a greater radiopacity than the remainder of the strut, the region disposed between two of the plurality of serpentine bands.

Claim 17. (Withdrawn) The stent of claim 16 wherein the special strut is in a region between the ends of the stent.

Claim 18. (Withdrawn) The stent of claim 17 further comprising a cover disposed about at least one serpentine segments.

Claim 19-21. (Canceled)

Claim 22. (Withdrawn) The stent of claim 16 wherein some of the struts with the enlarged width are located anywhere between the middle of the stent and a position one half of the way from the middle of the stent to an end of the stent.

Claim 23. (Withdrawn) The stent of claim 16 wherein some of the struts with the enlarged width are at one end of the stent.

Claim 24. (Withdrawn) The stent of claim 16 wherein the region with the enlarged width is substantially circular or oval.

Claim 25. (Withdrawn) The stent of claim 16 in bifurcated form.

Claims 26. (Previously Presented) A stent in an unexpanded state comprising:

a plurality of serpentine bands, each serpentine band having a distal end having a peak and a proximal end having a trough and formed of interconnected struts having a first side and a second side, the plurality of serpentine bands including a proximal-most serpentine band and a distal-most serpentine band and a plurality of intermediate serpentine bands between the proximal-most and distal-most serpentine bands, some of the intermediate serpentine bands including interconnected struts which are special struts, each special strut extending from the peak of the serpentine band to the trough of the serpentine band and having a radiopaque marker therebetween the first side and second side; circumferentially adjacent each side of each special strut are a plurality of interconnected struts, the first side and the second side of each interconnected strut of the plurality having a curved region which curves about the radiopaque marker;

a first serpentine band and a second serpentine band being immediately adjacent one another and connected by a connector extending from the distal end of the first serpentine band to the proximal end of the second serpentine band,

at least one cover, the at least one cover on at least one region of the medical device, a plurality of the special struts located at one end of the cover and another plurality of the special struts located at another end of the cover to mark the location of the cover.

Claim 27. (Previously Presented) The stent of claim 26 wherein the special struts are not at an end of the stent.

Claim 28. (Previously Presented) The stent of claim 26 wherein the radiopaque markers are bulbous.

Claims 29-33. (Canceled)

Claim 34. (Previously Presented) The stent of claim 1 wherein the cover does not extends about an entire circumference of the stent.

Claim 35. (Previously Presented) The stent of claim 34 where the cover does not extend over the entire length of the stent.

Claim 36. (Canceled)